(c) The major markets of India's Computer Software and IT related Services exports are as under:

USA & Canada	—	67%
Europe	—	24%

Statement

Export of Computer Software and IT-enabled Services during the Last Five Years

Year	Software Exports Rs. Crores	Growth Rate %
1996-97	3900	—
1997-98	6530	67
1996-99	10,940	68
1999-2000	17,150	57
200001	28,350	65
2001-02	36,500	29

Reduction of STD/ISD Rates by Cell Phone Operators

2333. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that cell phone operators have drastically reduced STO and ISD rates;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that the cell rates are now cheaper than the STD rates of BSNL; and

(c) if so, what steps are being taken to make BSNL telephones at the reach of common people?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) and (b) Sir, STD and ISD rates are determined by National Long Distance and International Long Distance operators respectively. In addition to the STD and ISD charges, the subscribers for Cellular Mobile Telephone Service (CMTS) have to pay airtime charges.

There are various tariff plans offered by the Cellular operators and the airtime charges vary depending on the tariff plan. As such K is not possible to make a meaningful comparison between the rates of a STD call made through a Cellular phone and a STD call made through a Fixed line telephone of BSNL. However, BSNL has now reduced STD rates on Fixed Telephone with effect from 07-03-2003 at par with BSNL Cellular Telephone. Now, BSNL STD rates are same for Fixed and Cellular Telephones.

(c) Does not arise in view of (a) and (b) above.

Employment in IT Industry

† 2334.SHRI KAPIL SiBAL:
SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that about 6,50,000 persons are expected to get employment by March 2003 in various sectors under Information Technology Industry in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether productivity of the persons employed in above industry has also been assessed; and

(d) if so, the assessment of per capita monthly productivity during the year 2002-03?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SU. THIRUNAVUKKARASAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It is estimated that about 2,05,000 persons will be working in the IT software and services export industry; nearly 1,60,000 persons in IT enabled services sector; 25,000 persons in the domestic software sector and over 2,60,000 persons in user organizations.

(c) and (d)No such assessment has been made by the Government. According to NASSCOM, total revenues of Indian Software and Services Industry in 2002-2003 are estimated to be Rs. 60,000 crores, comprising

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.